

B-RAP news

Business **RECYCLING** Assistance Program

Waste Management Information for South Carolina Businesses

May 3, 2005

Excellence program seeks environmental stewards

Columbia, S.C. – The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) now houses the S.C. Environmental Excellence Program (SCEEP) and is seeking qualified applicants to participate in this environmental leadership program.

SCEEP is a voluntary initiative that recognizes and rewards South Carolina facilities that have demonstrated superior environmental performance through pollution prevention, energy and resource conservation and the use of environmental management systems. DHEC has supported the program since its creation in 1997.

"It is important to publicly recognize those facilities and companies that have taken the initiative to implement programs and processes that go beyond what is required," said Bob King, DHEC deputy commissioner for Environmental Quality Control. "The SCEEP supports our goal of improving South Carolina's environment. We will continue to actively

support and encourage facilities to participate in this program."

Any South Carolina facility committed to waste reduction and continuous environmental improvement is eligible to participate. A company is not eligible to participate if there has been a pattern of permit exceedences, notices of violations or other enforcement activities within the previous five years that indicate a lack of commitment to continuous environmental improvement. The program currently has 32 participating facilities.

Since it began, SCEEP had been housed at the University of South Carolina's (USC) Institute for Public Service and Policy Research. To ensure its continued success, the initiative was moved to DHEC's Center for Waste Minimization, a non-regulatory pollution prevention and environmental assistance unit. The program continues to be directed by the SCEEP Advisory Committee, which includes representatives of industry, environment, government, academic and public interest.

Christine Steagall, who served as program coordinator for the SCEEP while it was at USC, will continue in that role. She can be reached at **(803) 896-8987** or steagacl@dhec.sc.gov.



South Carolina
Department of Commerce

ABOUT THIS ARTICLE: "B-RAP News" is published by the S.C. Department of Commerce's Recycling Market Development Advisory Council and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's Center for Waste Minimization, Small Business Assistance Program and Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling.

Editor: Karen Owens; **Assistant Editor:** Eric Melaro; **Layout/Design:** Gregg Glymph